of permitting others than court volunteers to prepare copies of documents for production in courts.

Reply.—As regards delay, the High Court have issued the necessary instructions. As for copies of records, the law itself prescribes that copies of certain documents might be produced by the parties. Copies of accounts, cadjan documents and translations of documents in foreign language, &c., might be produced by the parties themselves and the courts could examine them and return the originals. If the present rules require that copies in these cases have to be prepared by the court volunteers, it is hard and the High Court will be addressed to see whether the requisite relief could not be afford ed. On the other hand, where the original is asked to be immediately returned, a certified copy has to be insisted on and no relaxation of the rule can be made in such cases.

94. Refund of unpaid batta &c., to parties.

Mr. Varkey Oothuppu (*Ettumanur*) stated that batta to witnesses, &c., deposited in courts by parties were being now credited to Government on flimsy grounds, instead of being returned to parties in cases of non-payment, and suggested that the process peon himself might be asked to return them in case they were not expended by him for the purposes intended.

Reply.—The process peon cannot be entrusted with the responsibility of finding the party who deposited the money in court and refunding it to him in cases in which the amount is not paid to witnesses. An account of such sums is kept in all courts and the peon returns the unpaid balance to the court where the same is allowed to stand in the name of the party who deposited it, for a period of one year. If within this period the amount is not claimed, it is credited to Government after the publication of a formal notice. The present rules on the subject are unobjectionable.

95. Return of unspent balance of batta and mileage to witnesses on the receipt of parties or their vakils.

Mr. N. Kesavan Valiathan (*Kartigapalli*) said that in the notices now published in courts regarding unspent batta, &c., the names of the parties and other necessary particulars were not entered and this led to the parties not being able to find out and claim the

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amounts due to them and much hardship was the result. He requested that this information might be furnished in the notices in future and that such sums might be ordered to be returned, on the receipt of the parties or their pleaders on the back of the summonses.

Mr. G. Sankaranarayana Iyer (*Shencottah*) requested that as in British India unspent amounts of witness-batta, &c., might be returned to the parties without a formal order.

Reply.—As regards return of money on receipts, this is being now done in practice and any specific transgression may be brought to the notice of the presiding officer. If there is any general difficulty, the High Court will see what could be done. As for the names of parties being also shown in the notices, this will be done if deemed practicable.

96. Publication of a daily notice giving particulars of unexpended batta in courts.

Mr. N. Narayanan Karthavu (*Shertallay*) observed that if in every court a notice could be published day after day giving particulars regarding unspent batta to witnesses, &c., this would enable the parties to know the amount, date and other matters concerning them and they could easily obtain the sums due to them.

Reply.—It is impossible to publish a daily notice. Whether a notice could be published quarterly will be considered.

97. What amount has been realized by Government under the item of batta for the issue of processes in the Judical department?

Mr. Varkey Oothuppu (*Ettumanur*) solicited this information for 1080.

Reply.—The net income for 1080 was Rs. 30,000.

98. Payment of batta to witnesses appearing in obedience to summonses in criminal cases whether examined on the day of attendance or not.

Mr. Narayanan Jatavedar Namburipad (*Muvattupuzha*) requested that witnesses appearing in criminal cases in obedience to summonses might be paid their batta irrespective of the question whether they were examined on the day of appearance or not.

Reply.—Elaborate rules have been passed on 1st June 1894 regarding the payment of batta to complainants and witnesses covering

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